What is claimed is:

1. A method for generating a network topology map, comprising: receiving a map request from a remote node;

invoking a mapview module configured to generate a topology map with gathered information; and

transmitting said topology map to said remote node using a network protocol.

The method for generating a network topology map according to claim
further comprising:

adding a plurality of icons to said topology map, wherein said mapview module is further configured to generate connection lines between a subplurality of icons of said plurality of icons.

3. The method for generating a network topology map according to claim1, further comprising:

associating an output file stream with said topology map transmitted to said remote node.

4. The method for generating a network topology map according to claim1, further comprising:

generating said topology map by receiving a command on said gathered information.

5. The method for generating a network topology map according to claim 1, further comprising:

initializing a graphics driver, said graphics driver configured to provide an abstraction layer between said mapview module and a graphics library.

6. The method for generating a network topology map according to claim5, further comprising:

formatting said topology map to conform to a graphics format supported by said graphics library, wherein said graphics format includes a portable network graphics ("PNG") format.

7. The method for generating a network topology map according to claim5, further comprising

formatting said topology map to conform to a graphics format supported by said graphics library, wherein said graphics format includes a graphics interchange format ("GIF").

8. The method for generating a network topology map according to claim 1, wherein said network protocol includes hypertext transfer protocol.

9. A system for generating a network topology map, said system comprising:

at least one processor;

a memory coupled to said at least one processor;

a topology map module residing in said memory and executed by said at least one processor, wherein said topology map module is configured to receive a map request from a remote node, invoke a mapview module configured to generate a topology map with gathered information; and to transmit said topology map to said remote node using a network protocol.

- 10. The system for generating a network topology map according to claim 9, wherein said mapview module is further configured to add a plurality of icons to said topology map and to generate connection lines between a subplurality of icons of said plurality of icons.
- 11. The system for generating a network topology map according to claim 9, wherein said mapview module is further configured to associate an output file stream with said topology map transmitted to said remote node.
- 12. The system for generating a network topology map according to claim 9, wherein said mapview module is further configured to generate said topology map by initiating a command on said gathered information.

- 13. The system for generating a network topology map according to claim 9, wherein said mapview module is further configured to generate said topology map in a portable network graphics ("PNG") format.
- 14. The system for generating a network topology map according to claim 9, wherein said mapview module is further configured to generate said topology map in a graphics interchange format ("GIF").
- 15. A computer readable storage medium on which is embedded one or more computer programs, said one or more computer programs implementing a method for generating a network topology map, and comprising a set of instructions for:

receiving map request from a remote node;

invoking a mapview module configured to generate a topology map with gathered information; and

transmitting said topology map to said remote node using a network protocol.

16. The computer readable storage medium in according to claim 15, said one or more computer programs further comprising a set of instructions for:

adding a plurality of icons to said topology map, wherein said mapview module is further configured to generate connection lines between a subplurality of icons of said plurality of icons.

- 17. The computer readable storage medium in according to claim 15, said one or more computer programs further comprising a set of instructions for associating an output file stream with said topology map to said remote node.
- 18. The computer readable storage medium in according to claim 15, said one or more computer programs further comprising a set of instructions for generating said topology map by initiating a command on said gathered information.
- 19. The computer readable storage medium in according to claim 15, said one or more computer programs further comprising a set of instructions formatting said topology map to conform with a portable network graphics ("PNG") format.
- 20. The computer readable storage medium in according to claim 15, said one or more computer programs further comprising a set of instructions formatting said topology map to conform with a graphics interchange format ("GIF").